

Ambassador Koran Presents Certificates to Access Graduates

Twenty students from three Kigali high schools graduated from the first U.S.-sponsored Access Microscholarship Program in Rwanda. The students received their graduation certificates from the U.S. Ambassador to Rwanda, Donald Koran, in a ceremony held at the Kigali Health Institute, which hosted the Access program.

The Access program provides a foundation of English-language skills to talented 14-18 year-olds from disadvantaged sectors through after school classes and intensive summer sessions. The students who benefited from the program said that it not only taught them to speak and write English, but taught them to be innovative and express themselves in public.

The Access Microscholarship Program is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. In addition to the classes in Kigali, there are classes in Muhanga, Southern Province, where forty students are attending the program at the Catholic Institute of Kabgayi.

Since its inception in 2004, approximately 70,000 students in more than 85 countries have participated in the Access Program.